

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 139

By Kurita

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Joel Parker, the new Intermediate Grand National Turkey Calling Champion.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body should honor those people who through their determination, abilities, and endurance have achieved goals far and above the masses; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding person is eighteen-year-old, Joel Parker, who recently earned the title of Intermediate Grand National Turkey Calling Champion at the annual convention of the National Wild Turkey Federation in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a student at Clarksville High School, Mr. Parker has been competing in turkey calling contests since he was eight years old, and this was his fifth year at the Grand Nationals. He also competes at State and Regional events and is the two-time Tennessee Owl Hooting Champion; and

WHEREAS, opposing stiff competition, Joel Parker performed five vocalizations of the ten possible turkey calls contestants can be expected to make to win the illustrious title; and

WHEREAS, Joel Parker performed with expertise the cutting call of an excited hen, the plain yelp of a hen, the adult hen assembly call, the kee-kee run, and the cluck and purr at the competition, with the help of his custom mouth diaphragm, which was handmade by his father; and

WHEREAS, turkey calling is in the Parker family genes: Joel's father, Jim Parker, has been ranked as a top ten caller and was once State Champion. Joel's older brothers, Judd and Jason, have captured many titles in turkey calling competitions over the years; and

WHEREAS, an avid turkey and deer hunter, Joel Parker spends a lot of time in the woods listening to wild turkey calls to improve his turkey calling skills; and

WHEREAS, in addition to turkey calling, Joel Parker serves as a promotion celebrity for Hunter's Specialty outdoor equipment and conducts hunting seminars where he gives advice and instruction to turkey hunters; and

WHEREAS, Joel Parker exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his parents, Jim and Rhonda Parker, and his brothers, Jason and Judd; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Joel Parker for his dedication to the sport of turkey calling; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Joel Parker upon achieving the coveted title, Intermediate Grand National Turkey Calling Champion, and wish him every continued success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.